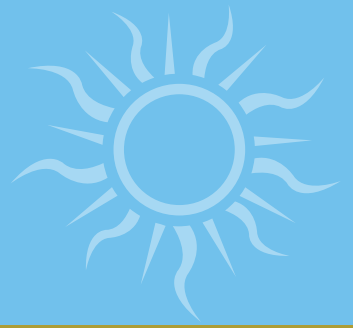


Year 9

Camp Week Memories



JULY 2025



The Market and Montmartre



Disneyland



Paris



End of Year 9

As we come to the end of Year 9, I wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge congratulations to all of the wonderful students in my year group. What a year it has been! From various sporting successes to trips, student leaders, options and more, Year 9 have really attacked this year with enthusiasm, perseverance and good humour.

On the 4th July, we celebrated some of these successes in our end of year assembly. I handed out over 60 awards to the year group, and this just goes to show what an incredible bunch they are.

Amongst the awards I was delighted to award Khile M with this term's "Kindness Hero Award". Khile demonstrates excellent qualities of kindness, and can always be relied upon to help others, or put someone else first. She has received nominations every term, so I am pleased that she is now a trophy winner!

I was also pleased to be able to reward a third of the students in our year group who have received no more than 1 single debit during the course of this year. These students deserve recognition for always having the correct uniform, correct equipment, and working at their best every day. These students went into a draw and Poppy D came out as winning the overall award for the year. Well done Poppy!

And finally, I awarded my first "Head of Year Award" for this year, and the winner was Marty S. Marty is an incredibly selfless person, who engages with all areas of the school. He has a positive outlook, and is supportive and helpful to all, whilst also consistently working well in lessons.

Well done Marty!

I cannot leave without mentioning the incredible time I had in Paris with a lot of the year group. It was so lovely to get to know them better away from school, and spend time chatting to them about anything and everything. A lot of them felt that this was a "coming of age" trip, and I enjoyed watching friendships flourish, as well as the Year 9 bond strengthening. And although I would rather forget a certain ride at Eurodisney(!), I will never forget the lovely week I spent with my incredible year group. More on this from the students in a second, and also congratulations to the Year 9s who remained at school. The staff were really impressed by your work and attitude over the week!

So, on to Year 10! Year 9 have really enjoyed their options taster lessons, and I am sure they are ready to get their teeth stuck into their courses properly. I will write with further details next term regarding our information evening on the 18th September. But until then, WELL DONE YEAR 9! You really are "Unstoppable", and make me proud every day. Thank you to all you wonderful parents for your support throughout the year, and I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable summer.

I will now hand over to some of the year group to tell you about Paris!

Mrs Azor

Elise

Full of anticipation for our first full day in Paris, we didn't let the sudden downpour of rain stop us as we made our way through the stunning Brie to a little pop-up market. There were many different stalls set up down the little, picturesque roads that had a large selection of things to look at and buy. We all came out with a variety of new things such as sunglasses, key-chains, watches, bracelets and even umbrella hats! With our teachers having a coffee in a nearby cafe, we were allowed free range across the market to stroll as we pleased, and the sun even came out to greet us! Despite the majority of us being the ones to buy things, a few boys ended up becoming the vendors, finding work for half an hour! They worked diligently to sell things to the locals, practising their French skills (as we all tried to do) and giving up their free time to help others. It was an incredible morning, with a lot of opportunities to see the beauty that the market holds and to treat ourselves to a few items. We finished the morning a few hours later by boarding back on the coach to further explore France!

Jack B

Following the market in Brie, we visited the Sacre Coeur, a very large Cathedral on a hill overlooking Paris. Our bus driver dropped us off at the bottom of the hill and we walked up to the top of the hill, past lots of tourist shops. The view up at the top was amazing, but the heat was intense. Regardless, we marvelled at the construction of the Cathedral. We then walked just past the Sacre Coeur to Monument, a large market place with lots of shops. People bought souvenirs and chilled in cafes for the 2 hours we had in free time. Lots of eating opportunities were available, such as a very popular shaved ice van, which helped to deal with the heat on the day. We then met up with our teachers again, and got back on the bus.

Marty

At the Eiffel Tower: It was tiring going up the stairs but it was breath-taking because I could see the whole of Paris it was phenomenal. There was ice cream and great views on the individual floors. The way down was easier to walk but it felt like it took forever I felt wobbly but i was proud that I did it.

After that we went on a boat tour down the river Seine and it was really nice and relaxing because we could see all the structures and hear some stories behind their past. Of course it might not be everyone's liking but that still doesn't mean that they didn't enjoy it, because during that time people had a great time chatting to each other and relaxing. So everyone had something they were able to do on that tour.

Khosi

While in Paris, our year group stayed in an amazing chateau full of great activities. The PGL team provided us with opportunities like dodgeball, photo scavenger hunts, and a disco on our final evening. We were offered a half an hour slot to swim in the pool and access the pool bar every evening, as well as delicious food. Breakfast brought fresh pastries such as croissants and pain aux chocolates, and dinner gave us the opportunity to try authentic French cuisine, as the final evening had escargot for people to opt to try. Each morning, we prepared our baguettes with a selection of toppings to eat whilst out on activities. The rooms were comfy and cozy with private bathrooms attached. The shop on site was bursting with souvenirs and many of us made to most of it. Overall, Year 9 camp week was a wonderful experience and we all thoroughly enjoyed the trip and the opportunities it gave us.

Paris



Evening Fun and Games



Thank You!

Thank you to our wonderful staff for looking after our students during their week away.

